holding of 67.72% through the "book building process'. It was also decided that upto 15% of the equity offered for sale will be reserved for the employees of BHEL. However, letters have been received from workers unions and others opposing disinvestment in BHEL. The objections are under consideration. No further decision has been taken in this matter.

Settlement of claims of depositors

1606. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the hardships caused to the survivors/dependents of a deceased in claiming the amounts left by the deceased in his/her account, despite nominations in respect of single bank account because of different interpretations given or procedures followed by these Banks;

(b) whether Government propose to evolve a fool proof and uniform procedure devoid in inconvenience to the survivors; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being colleted and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Branches of Regional Rural Banks

†1607. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the Regional Rural Banks presently functioning in the country, especially in North-Eastern States alongwith their locations;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to open more new branches of banks in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.